

App. No. 10/731,242
Amendment Dated: November 6, 2006
Reply to final Office Action of September 5, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-22 remain in this application for further review. The claims have been amended for clarification as set forth above. The claims have not been amended to further limit the claims and applicants assert that a new search is not required.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement and as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. Examiner Tsui remarks pertain to the feature "wherein the properties comprise at least one of a context free chunk element and a table element." Applicants have moved the substance of the feature as suggested by Examiner Tsui in order to clarify the claims. Accordingly, applicants assert that the rejections have been properly traversed.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101

Claims 18-22 are rejected on the bases that the claimed system appears to be directed to a "computer program per se without hardware." Applicants have amended the claims as set forth above in light of Examiner Tsui's concern. Accordingly, applicants assert that the rejection has been properly traversed.

III. Improper Reference

The Current Application is a continuation-in-part application of 10/187,060 filed June 28, 2002 (hereinafter "the '060 application"). *See Preliminary Amendment*, filed November 8, 2004. Accordingly, the common subject matter between the Current Application and the '060 application have an effective filing date of June 28, 2002.

The Office Action cites U.S. Publication No. 2004/0194035 published to Chakraborty (hereinafter "Chakraborty") having a filing date of March 31, 2003. Chakraborty was cited as teaching "wherein the properties comprise at least one of a table element."

The '060 application discloses properties comprising at least one of a table element. As a few examples, the '060 application recites as follows:

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"FIGURE 5 illustrates a block diagram of a document, in accordance with aspects of the invention. Styles 505 include list styles 510, char styles 512, paragraph styles 514, and table styles 516. Properties 518 include document properties 520 and information properties 522. Body 524 includes exemplary section 526 and exemplary section 528. Section 526 includes paragraph 530 that includes specific property information 530 and text run 532. As can be seen, the text runs may include properties and the text or possibly an image or an object.

Exemplary section 528 includes table 550 that includes properties relating to the table and a definition of the table rows and the cells contained within the table. The sections may also include information relating to the footnotes, print information and the like." '060 Application Specification, at pg. 9, lines 12-22.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully assert that Chakraborty is an improper reference in that it is not prior art. Applicants request removal of the same.

IV. Rejection of claims 1-4, 6-14, and 16-22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1, 3, and 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Altamura et al (hereinafter "Altamura") in view of Chakraborty. Claims 2, 10-13 and 16-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Altamura in view of Chakraborty and further in view of Kink et al. (hereinafter "Kink"). Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Altamura in view of Chakraborty and further in view of Eisenberg (hereinafter "Eisenber"). Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Altamura and Chakraborty and further in view of Pavlov. Claims 11 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Altamura, Kink, Chakraborty and further in view of Pavlov.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejections. All the rejections depend on the Chakraborty reference. The Chakraborty is an improper reference as set forth above. Accordingly, applicants assert that all the claims are currently allowable.

V. Request for Reconsideration

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application,

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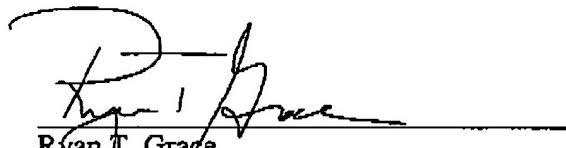
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the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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